

La Pierrière near Geneva, Switzerland.
March 18th 1874

Ara Gray Esq.
Botanic Garden of Cambridge. Mass.

Dear Sir,

Through the kindness of my father in law, M^r Edmond Boissier, I take the liberty of asking to you the kindness of forwarding, with recommendation, the enclosed letter to M^r Bolander San Francisco.

I am studying at present an essay of monography of the genus Epilobium and am ready to go to the expense of having the American species figured which have not been drawn to the present day. I would be very much indebted to you for good specimens or seeds of Epilobium obcordatum, luteum, suffruticosum, opacum, glandulosum, minutum, tenellum, oliganthum, etc, etc so as to be able to give as good descriptions as possible.

If my request is indiscreet please omit it and believe me,
yours very respectfully

William Barbey

If my work succeeds it will give me pleasure to publish in English a special little pamphlet on American epilobium, if you think it would be of benefit to any one in the States.

Harvey